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ARKANSAS

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Claims Race Made Goat In Marriage Law Debate

MAR 22 1941

By LAWRENCE B. WILSON
Dean, Philander Smith College

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Criticisms were launched this week against certain members of the state legislature for making derogatory statements concerning the Negro in Arkansas during the debates on the various marriage bills introduced during the current session of the legislature.

Negroes of the State of Arkansas are being made the "goat" by certain members of the Arkansas State Legislature in their attempt to prevent the passage of a bill which would strengthen the marriage laws of the state.

Several bills have been introduced in both branches of the legislature which would restrict in some manner the issuance of marriage licenses in the state. At this writing, however, not a single one has been passed by both branches of the legislature. It is the presentation of arguments against some of the bills that several members of the legislature have subjected the Negroes of the state to much needless and unjustifiable criticism.

During the debate in the House on the bill to require three days advance notice of intention to wed, the bill also required that the marriage license be purchased in the county where one of the parties lived. Representative J. C. Hale of Crittendon county said, "My county clerk is supported by marriage license fees. The Black Belt of Memphis doesn't think its residents are married unless they are treated to a trip over to Marian for a license."

Marian, Ark., is just 12 miles from Memphis, Tenn. The State of Tennessee requires a waiting period before issuing a license.

The Honorable Mr. Hale went on to say, "Negroes who live in eastern Arkansas just won't wait three days. They will start living together without the benefit of matrimony."

Further expressing his opposition to the bill, Hale said, "It would

undo much of the progress made in the last three generations to persuade Negroes to follow convention of white persons as related to marriage."

It seems to me that such statements as these were unnecessary, unjustifiable and served no purpose except to heap upon Negroes much unfounded criticism. Then, too, if Mr. Hale was really interested in the welfare of Negroes, there are many real problems to which he could devote his energies in the state legislature.

During the debate in the Senate on March 5, on a bill that would require both men and women to submit to physical examination before being granted marriage license, Senator Ivy W. Crawford of Slytheville said, "This may be a good bill, but it is 30 years too soon. The syphilis rate is so high in Arkansas that its provision would practically abolish marriage among Negroes."

Now, Senator, if the syphilis rate is so high in Arkansas as a whole, why would the passage of such a bill "practically abolish marriage" among Negroes? Why would it not also practically abolish marriage among the whites as well? There is not too great a difference between the syphilis rate of Negroes and whites in Arkansas. It is true that the rate is higher among Negroes, but the statistics from the various counties in the state are taken from the reports of public clinics and Negroes because of their lower income, are obliged to go to public clinics more so than the whites. When the money is available private treatment can be secured. These are not included in the released statistics.

Senator W. H. Abington of Beebe, Ark., a physician, said, "This bill is admirable . . . so many Negroes are victims of tuberculosis because their bodies have been weakened by venereal diseases." This is true, Senator, but tuberculosis is no respecter of persons. Many whites are also the victims of tuberculosis because their bodies have been weakened by venereal diseases. I believe you will find that the State

of Arkansas has found it necessary to provide a great many beds for its white tubercular patients just as has been necessary for the Negroes of the state.

I should like to refer this Senator to a statement made by Representative Ben D. Brickhouse of Little Rock, who has been leading the fight for passage of such a bill. Mr. Brickhouse said, "Eighty per cent of the operations performed in Little Rock hospitals on young married women are the direct result of venereal diseases."

If this statement is true it undoubtedly refers to both whites and Negroes if not to all whites because hospitalization accommodations for Negroes in the city are very limited.

The Negroes of the State of Arkansas have not asked for the passage of these bills nor have they opposed them. The Legislative Committee of the Arkansas Congress of Parents and Teachers (white), the Ministerial Alliance, etc., have recommended the passage of one or the other of these bills.

If the members of the General Assembly are opposed to the bills themselves, they should speak for themselves and stop making such derogatory, misleading and unfounded statements against the Negroes of the State.

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GENERAL

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

SENATOR WOULD LEGALIZE INTERRACIAL MARRIAGES

FEB 22 1941

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 20—A joint resolution proposing a Constitutional amendment to give Congress authority to make uniform marriage and divorce laws, and a bill to provide for uniform regulation of marriage and divorce, were introduced in the Senate last Monday by Senator Arthur Capper, Republican, of Kansas.

In the opinion of lawyers, the bill would not disturb existing laws in Southern States prohibiting interracial marriages.

In many States, particularly throughout the South, marriage between white and colored persons is unlawful. Marriage between whites and Indians is still forbidden in several Southern States. In Arizona, by a law of 1931, a Malay or Filipino cannot lawfully marry a Caucasian.

Under the provisions of the bill, both of the contracting parties would be required to appear personally before the marriage license clerk, who shall require of them at least ten days before the issuance of the license, a statement under oath relative to the legality of the contemplated marriage.

If an interracial marriage is contracted in one State, however, the bill provides that it shall be recognized as a legal marriage in every other State.

The model form of marriage license would not require specification of racial identity, but it provides that the issue of this license shall not be deemed to remove or dispense with any legal disability, impediment, or prohibition rendering marriage between the parties illegal.

Any officiating person who solemnizes a marriage knowing of any legal impediment to it, under the terms of the bill, would be guilty of a misdemeanor and punishable by a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year, or by both fine and imprisonment.

Most excited about Soviet atheism is the Catholic hierarchy in the U.S.A. which still condones the barring of Negro students from scores of Catholic schools and colleges, and the segregation of Negro Catholics in their churches. The Catholic movie censorship decrees that miscegenation (which has happened several million times in United States history) must not be mentioned, or shown in any way in our movies.

Last week Pope Pius XII, who seems far more liberal than his fellow American clergymen, struck out against racial marriage laws. He said, "No human law can take from man the natural and primitive right of marriage." Nevertheless the laws of 29 American States take away that right where color is involved. You have never heard of a U.S. Catholic official condemning one of these laws, although the Nazis and Fascists are denounced for passing similar laws. Well, it's a funny world, isn't it?

FEB 22 1941

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

White Man, Surprised with Woman, Fined

BALTIMORE

A white store manager charged with obstructing free passage was fined \$10 and costs in Northwestern police court, Wednesday, while Miss Cora Walker, 35, of 666 Franklin Street, facing a similar charge, was placed under \$100 bail, pending a jury trial.

A police officer testified that he arrested the couple the night before on a loading platform in a darkened section of a small street in the rear of the 700 block of Pennsylvania Avenue.

He said the man, Morris Spiegel, 41, of 2525 Brookfield Avenue, began rearranging his clothes when he surprised the couple.

Though preferring to have her trial before a jury in Criminal Court rather than before the magistrate, Miss Walker denied that there was anything improper between herself and the white man.

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NEW JERSEY

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Questions Wife's Race after 14 Yrs.

still supporting his wife.

Mrs. Perkins was not in court but was represented by her attorney who forced Mr. Perkins to admit that he is now living with another woman pending the outcome of his present annulment proceedings.

ENGLEWOOD, N.J.—To what race does Mrs. Alma Perkins actually belong?

This is the question being asked throughout northern New Jersey, since her husband, James M. Perkins, head of a shoe fabric manufacturing company, testified in court Friday in his suit to have his 14-year-old marriage annulled, that his wife had concealed her racial lineage.

While he had lived with Mrs. Perkins two years, from 1925 to 1927, when they were married, it was not until last April that he discovered that she possessed other than white blood, he told the court, and that was when he visited her mother.

Remained Outside

On one occasion he drove his wife to visit her mother, who only lived a short distance, but when they got there, his wife would not permit him to go into the house, he told the court. He said she did this because she did not want him to discover that she possessed the blood of another race.

In discussing their marriage, Mr. Perkins said he met Mrs. Perkins in 1925 and that she did the proposing, that he had been married before and so had she, and neither had obtained a divorce, so they lived together until they obtained their divorces.

Her friends instigated the trouble between them, Mr. Perkins testified, and they succeeded despite the fact that he had built a \$20,000 home at St. Albans, L.I. for her. At first, they got along all right, but Mrs. Perkins' friends were gamblers and bootleggers and he was forced to break off from her in 1932, he said. Mr. Perkins told the court that he is

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Chicago Defender Chicago, Illinois White Medic Gets Delay In Parentage Trial

NEW YORK (ANP)—A German refugee doctor charged with failure to support a child alleged to be his by a 14-year-old Negro mother, was granted a postponement of trial until September after having entered a general denial of parentage in special sessions court Thursday morning. He is Dr. Herman Loeb, a Bronx physician.

The case is being pressed in behalf of Gwendolyn Smith, the child's mother, by the department of welfare. In the event of a decision in favor of the young mother, the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, having interested itself in the matter as early as February, will seek prosecution of the medic for rape as a result of the girl's original complaint.

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Virginia

White Doctor Wins Delay In Support Case

NEW YORK (ANP) — A German refugee doctor charged with failure to support a child alleged to be his by a 14-year-old Negro mother was granted a postponement of trial until September after having entered a general denial of parentage in Social Sessions Court. He is Dr. Herman Loeb, a Bronx physician.

The case is being pressed in behalf of Gwendolyn Smith, the child's mother, by the department of welfare.

While visiting the office of Dr. Loeb seeking a certificate for his sick mother, Gwendolyn Smith is alleged to have been forced to submit to his rough advances. Through the Children's Society criminal action was filed against the doctor, but the grand jury refused to indict him.

Charles Smith, the girl's father and a WPA employe at Harlem hospital, asked the NAACP for advice and the branch referred the matter to its counsel, Philip Watson.

Following the birth of the child in May 25 the girl enlisted the aid of the welfare department in an effort to secure support for the offspring from its alleged father. It is this case that is now before the court.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Harlem Wife Sees Mate Slain by Cop

A white man's love for his colored wife, who came to his "defense" during an altercation between the husband and a police officer, came to an end early Sunday when Thomas Gordon, 37, was shot to death outside of a speakeasy at 2010 Fifth Av., between 124th and 125th Sts.

The victim's wife, Mrs. Mary Gordon, bit the policeman involved several times. She also threw a beer bottle at the cop when the latter pulled his gun.

For that, she was ordered held in \$2,000 bail on a felonious assault charge, following arraignment in felony court.

According to the story told in court, Patrolman George Pagliaro was on "raided premises" duty at the Fifth Avenue speakeasy when Gordon and his wife walked past about 3 A. M. Sunday. (The place was raided four weeks ago.)

An argument ensued with Gordon allegedly picking up a chair and striking at the cop, who pulled his gun and started shooting. One bullet ploughed through the speakeasy owner's heart and he died instantly.

Detectives investigating the case claimed that Gordon's place was a hangout for neighborhood prostitutes.

NEW YORK

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

"JAILED FOR ADULTERY"
EVIDENCE of the changing attitude of the southern whites in their relations to the Negro was contained in a one-paragraph story in The Age last week, captioned "Jailed for Adultery." It read:

EDENTON, N. C.—Found guilty last week in Recorders Court of fornication and adultery with a Negro, Mrs. Mary Tucker, 26-year-old white woman, was sentenced Wednesday by Judge J. W. Graham to spend a period not to exceed three years in the State Industrial Farm School for Women at Kinston.

Not so long ago the white South would not admit that a white woman would voluntarily have sexual relation with a Negro, and would have probably held the Negro in the case on a charge of rape, as was done in the famous Scottsboro case.

In the Old North State, at least, public opinion has come to realize that all southern white women are not perfect.

payments were made by Kip until his death from pneumonia in 1936. His father, Philip Rhinelander, multi-millionaire realtor, assumed the obligation and continued to send the checks to the New Rochellean until he died on March 8, 1940. Payments were stopped then because Kip's sister, Mrs. Adelaide R. Thomas, contended that the agreement was illegal.

In her suit last April, the ex-Mrs. Rhinelander charged through her lawyers that Philip Rhinelander, the father, had guaranteed to make payments in case Kip defaulted. Her lawyers cited a line in the agreement in which the father added: "This obligation shall be binding upon my heirs, executors and administrators."

At present Mrs. Alice Jones Rhinelander lives on Pelham Road, next door to what was her home when Leonard Kip Rhinelander wooed her seventeen years ago. At one time the Rhinelander riches were estimated to be \$50,000,000.

\$3,600 Yearly To Kip's Widow Funds to Come From Estate of Father of Late Husband

The awarding of a neat life-time annuity of \$3,600 to Mrs. Alice Jones Rhinelander, of New Rochelle, last week in Surrogate's Court in Mineola, L. I., revives one of the greatest interracial dramas of the middle '20's.

According to Surrogate Leone D. Howell, an agreement exists between the 41-year-old Westchester County beauty and the Rhinelander "heirs, executors and administrators" and they must pay her \$300 a month for life.

It was the late Leonard Kip Rhinelander, Manhattan blueblood and playboy, who wooed and then married Miss Alice Jones, daughter of a cab driver, in Westchester County on Oct. 14, 1924. The following year, however, the multi-millionaire sought an annulment of this marriage on the grounds that his bride had concealed her Negro ancestry from him. The courts, after getting evidence of pre-marital trysts between the couple upheld the marriage.

In 1929 Alice Jones Rhinelander gave her consent to a Reno divorce and Kip Rhinelander agreed then to give her a cash settlement of \$31,500, in addition to \$300 a month for life. The monthly

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Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Imprisoned For Accepting Love Of Okla. White Girl

GUTHRIE, Okla. (ANP) — In a closed court trial December 30, James Ellison, 22, young college graduate was given a four-year sentence with six months in which to file an appeal, for having had an affair with Miss Gloria Husted, 16, popular white high school girl of Guthrie, it was revealed this week.

Preliminary hearing was held for Ellison on September 21, with only persons directly involved and witnesses permitted to be present. It was one of the quietest cases ever to be held in the state.

During the trial Miss Husted stated to the court that she had known "Jimmie" since the summer of 1939 and that her first intimacy was during the same year on a cemetery road when she went out with him in his car, and that her last relation with him had been in May, 1940, when she visited in his home one night.

When asked by the state's attorney why she had had relations with Ellison, she said, "Because he asked me, I guess" and further questioning revealed that he had told her that practically all the girls he went with did it and that there wasn't anything wrong in it. She stated that Ellison knew what year she was in school, because "he had my play book, my sophomore play book."

Testimony also brought out that when Miss Husted visited relatives in Tulsa, Ellison sent her greeting cards and also sent them to her home address in Guthrie.

Geln Farquharson, sheriff of Logan county who presented the cards as exhibits to the court, testified that he had gotten them from Miss Husted's brother, Tony, who is a recruiting officer in the naval department in Tulsa.

Other evidence, envelopes addressed to Miss Husted at her home in Guthrie, minus the letters, were procured in the girl's home. He further testified that an effort to secure letters to Ellison from the girl were futile but he found pictures of her in Ellison's possession.

Ellison's signed statement revealed that he lived across the

street from a grocery store where the white girl and companions visited frequently.

"They would wave and smile at me," he said. "Then they used to throw a ball over in the yard where I lived and come over after it. One night about 10 p.m., when I drove a car up in the yard, Gloria Husted and Dorothy Shumate came over and said, 'We want to sit down and talk to you.' The moon was shining bright, and there was a light upstairs across the street. I told them I couldn't talk to them. My sister heard them and came to the door and said, 'Jimmie, come on in here.' I went on in.

"They would call me over the phone quite often. Gloria sent me a picture at Christmas time. She would call me as much as three times in two hours and would talk about 30 minutes. I would ask her to hang up and she would say, 'You better not hang up on me.'

"Then I got two small pictures from her. I have them in my billfold. I was afraid to leave them around the house. I told her she ought not call me up as I am a grown man and she told me, 'You are not so much older than I am. I am 18.'

His testimony closed with, "When I first talked with you, sheriff, I wanted to protect the girl and I didn't tell you the truth. I don't know what makes the girl think so much of me."

When young Ellison was first arrested he was carried to Enid county jail for safe keeping, and the girl was committed to the Training School for Girls at Tecumseh, Okla.

Other records reveal that the high school girl, said to be one of the most beautiful in Guthrie, pleaded with authorities not to punish Jimmie because she loved him. The girl's father is an automobile salesman.

Ellison's father is a teacher in the Guthrie high school, a graduate from Langston university, and attended Fisk university two years.

OKLAHOMA

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

White Lassie's FEB 22 1941 Lover Jailed

GUTHRIE, Okla. — Convicted in a closed court trial, of having an affair with a 16-year-old white schoolgirl, said to be considered the most beautiful in the city, James Ellison, 22, young college graduate, was given a four-years sentence, with six months to file an appeal, last December 20, it was disclosed here this week.

At the trial, and at the preliminary hearing last September 21, it was said, only persons directly involved and witnesses were permitted to be present.

The girl, Gloria Husted, is said to have admitted intimacies with Ellison, son of a Guthrie high school teacher and Langston University graduate, in court, and correspondence between the pair was also exhibited by officials.

Ellison, who also attended Fisk University for two years, is said to have signed a statement that the girl, and her companions, often visited his home, declared he didn't know "what makes the girl think so much of me."

When first arrested Ellison was carried to the Enid County jail and the girl, who is said to have pleaded with authorities not to punish Jimmy because she was in love with him, was sent to the Training School for Girls at Tecumseh, Okla. Her father is an automobile salesman.

When sentenced, Ellison was given six months to file an appeal but whether further action has been taken in the matter as yet was not disclosed.

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PENNSYLVANIA

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

White-Tan Love Affair Spells Jail For Youth; Wrote "Scare" Letters

JAN 9 1941

A purported white-tan romance between a well known Philadelphia and Atlantic City figure and an attractive white "belle" of Baltimore resulted in the male party of the "love affair" being held in \$2,500 bail by a U. S. Commissioner, last Thursday.

The man, who gave his name as Clarence Van Adams of 5412 Thompson street, was arrested last week by Federal agents on charges of sending threatening letters through the mails. The family of the white woman is alleged to have protested to Government officials about letters and a package their daughter received from Adams.

The given name of the woman involved in the case is Miss Betty Donnelly, of Baltimore. She is reported to have lived with Adams in Atlantic City as man and wife until recently, when she left him and returned to her home in Baltimore.

WOULD-BE BOMB HARMLESS

Adams, who is represented by Attorney Robert N. C. Nix, is accused of demanding in threatening letters that the woman come to live with him in Philadelphia. Her family became frightened when he sent her a large parcel. They suspected that it contained a bomb, but an investigation revealed it to be harmless.

According to a story told to Attorney Nix by Adams, he and the woman met some time ago in Atlantic City and fell in love. They were so much in love, Adams said, they couldn't live apart, and engaged an apartment as man and wife.

Later, Adams continued in his story to Nix, Miss Donnelly went home to her parents in Baltimore and he came to Philadelphia. But they were supposed to go back together after a given length of time.

WAITED, THEN WROTE

Days passed, Adams told his attorney, but the woman did not come, and he began to fear she had left him for good. It was at that juncture, he declared, that he started writing her letters, begging and demanding she come back.

Adams also told his attorney, Nix said, that he believed Miss Donnelly would have returned to him but for the intervention of her parents.

When arrested by Federal agents, Adams allegedly confessed sending

the letters, but denied having even the slightest intention of harming her.

Adams lives with his parents at the Thompson street address and was formerly employed by a chain drug store concern.

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PERU

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Intermarriage Wiped Out Prejudice in Peru

MAR 15 1941

Peruvian Lecturer Tells How His
Country Solved Race Problem

By MERCER COOK

ATLANTA, Ga. — "Intermarriage of colored people with Indians and Spaniards has reduced race prejudice in Peru to a minimum; I might almost say that it does not exist at all," Commander Fernando Romero, noted Peruvian anthropologist, told a group of students and teachers at Atlanta University recently.

"In 1791," he said, "Negroes represented 8 per cent of Peru's population, but today they probably constitute less than 1 per cent of Peru's 8,000,000. There are no pure Negroes in my country."

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Commander Romero, who is one of the twelve South American scholars now visiting this country at the invitation of the U. S. Department of State, has published numerous articles on the colored man's contribution to Peru, and is now preparing a book on that subject.

Famous Colored Saint

Senor Romero pointed out that even during colonial days there was frequent intermarriage in Peru, for the Spaniards were never so aloof as the English. The famous colored saint, Martin de Porres, was the son of a Spanish knight and a colored woman.

According to Spanish law, slaves could and actually did buy their freedom. Many masters, he said, were generous and helped the slaves to purchase their liberation. Free colored persons were employed in various industries even during the slavery period.

Talented Doctor Cited

Toward the end of the colonial

era, according to the speaker, one colored man, Jose Manuel Valdes, was so talented in medicine that several white physicians in Lima petitioned the King of Spain to allow him to study medicine at the local university.

Valdes completed the four-year course in one year and became one of the three leading doctors in Peru. When independence came, he served as a deputy.

The country also honors him today as a famous poet, for he is considered by Spanish critics as one of the best translators of the Psalms.

Other Prominent Citizens

Among other colored persons prominent in Peru's history Senor Romero listed the dramatist, Manuel A. Segura; the painter, Pancho Fierro; and the contemporary novelist, Enrique Lopez Albuja, who, until recently, was judged Peru's leading novelist.

Albuja, according to the Peruvian, differs from most of his compatriots in that he admits his African blood. In one of his books, his grandmother asks:

"Why did everything that signified strength, greatness, ambition, progress and glory come by the obscure road of Africa and not by the enlightened road of Spain?"

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~~Afro-American~~
~~Baltimore, Maryland~~

VIRGINIA

White Man Banished for Enticing Girls

APR 19 1941

RICHMOND—Found guilty of impairing the morals of five young colored girls, Alexander Pearlman, 58, white, of Solomon's Store, was fined \$200 and ordered to leave the State on Friday when he was haled before Justice Harold F. Snead in Henrico County.

The judge scored Pearlman's conduct, and told him that he would have to leave the State for a year in order to avoid serving twelve months.

It was disclosed that the man came to Richmond repeatedly and took the girls to Solomon's store in his car. He told the court that he procured them for his colored truck drivers, but it is believed that his interest in them was personal.

5- Va.